

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard Chinn on January 21, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

The Claims:

In claim 8, line 37, after "surface comprises the" insert – ceramic --.

Cancel claims 1-4 and 12.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Note that, Applicant's amendments, Applicant's arguments, and the Examiner's Amendment are sufficient to place the instant claims in condition for allowance. Of the references of record, the most pertinent are Jeschke et al (US 6,251,849) and Harada et al (US 3,920,392). Jeschke et al teach the use of water-based cleaners for hard surfaces containing from 0.01 to 10% by weight of cationic polymers containing monomer units having the same formula as recited by the instant claims, and 0.1 to 50% by weight of one or more nonionic surfactants. See column 2, line 30 to column 3, line 15. The cleaners are suitable as both multipurpose cleaners and as manual dishwashing detergents. The cleaners are particularly suitable for cleaning hard

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surfaces such as enamel, glass, china, linoleum, ceramic tiles, marble, metals, etc. See column 5, lines 55-69.

Harada et al teach a metal corrosion inhibitor consisting of a polysulfone compound obtained by copolymerizing or interpolymerizing sulfur dioxide and at least one 1,6-diene compound. The metal corrosion inhibitor may be added in a corrosion inhibitorily effective amount, preferably at least 1 ppm, to a corrosive medium, with which a metal comes into contact, to inhibit the medium from corroding the metal. See Abstract. However, note that, upon further consideration and as pointed out by Applicant in the response filed 9/30/08, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to include a sulfur dioxide monomer as taught by Harada et al into the polymer compound as taught by Jeschke et al for the purposes of corrosion inhibition when used on the ceramic surface of a toilet bowl because a ceramic surface is not a metal surface subject to corrosion and thus, would not need a corrosion inhibiting compound.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory R. Del Cotto whose telephone number is (571) 272-1312. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on (571) 272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gregory R. Del Cotto/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/G. R. D./
January 21, 2009